



City of Arts & Innovation

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Public Works Director Tom Boyd Announces Retirement

17-year career in City of Riverside improved traffic flow and safety at rail crossings

RIVERSIDE, Calif. – Public Works Director Tom Boyd, who led Riverside’s effort to ease traffic congestion by revamping freeway interchanges and building an unprecedented six railroad grade separations around the city, is retiring.

Boyd, who has worked for the City since 1998, has directed the Public Works Department since April, 2012. He has worked in the Public Works field in Southern California for 35 years and plans to retire on Oct. 16.

“I’ve been very fortunate to work with a great team in Public Works,” Boyd said. “I’m proud of the fact that we have enjoyed a great deal of success in terms of completing major projects to improve the lives of Riverside residents and business owners.”

During his tenure in Public Works, Boyd was involved in planning, design and construction of major infrastructure projects, including major improvements to the interchanges with Highway 91 at Van Buren Boulevard and La Sierra Avenue, as well as the widening of major arterials such as Van Buren, La Sierra and Alessandro Boulevard, and the extension of Collett Avenue.

The six railroad grade separations raise or lower either the roadbed or the railroad tracks so that the two never cross, allowing vehicle traffic on the roads to move freely regardless of the number of trains rolling down the tracks. The projects have been credited with improving traffic flow around the city and reducing the amount of time drivers, including first responders, spend at rail crossings.

“Tom Boyd’s work is felt every day by Riversiders who are trying to get around our growing city,” Mayor Rusty Bailey said. “His leadership helped ensure that bicyclists and motorists can get where they need to go without being stuck on a freeway off-ramp or at a railroad crossing.”

Boyd moved to California in 1980 after graduating from Virginia Tech with a degree in civil engineering and worked 10 years with the Los Angeles County Road Department before moving on to

Boyle Engineering Corporation for eight years. He started in Riverside in July, 1998 as the Engineering Manager for the Public Works Department.

Boyd twice served as Interim Public Works Director in 2001-2003 and in 2011-12 before being appointed Public Works Director in April 2012. Under his leadership, the department obtained more than \$300 million in regional, state and federal grants to improve local transportation.